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ABSTRACT

This state plan is New Jersey's response to the charge of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 (the McKinney Act) to assure educational access for homeless children and youth. The introductory section discusses the following issues: (1) the changing face of homelessness; (2) homeless children and youth; (3) the McKinney Act; and (4) the establishment of the State Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth. Section 2 describes two separate needs assessment studies conducted by the Department of Human Services and the Department of Education respectively, and their conclusions. Section 3, discussing the State's role in homeless education, finds 9 significant obstacles faced by homeless students, proposes 12 objectives to respond to these obstacles, and lists detailed activities, timelines, and staff responsible for each objective. Section 4, concerning the plan of operation, describes the following components: (1) management plan; (2) methods used to provide services; and (3) evaluation procedures. Section 5 records recommendations presented at public hearings. A selected bibliography of references is appended. The report concludes with the following appendices: (1) subtitle B of the McKinney Act; (2) proposed revision to state residency requirements; (3) the Commissioner's memo to chief school administrators; (4) a copy of a survey instrument; and (5) a list of respondents by county. (AF)

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THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN NEW JERSEY:

A PLAN FOR STATE ACTION

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THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN NEW JERSEY:

A PLAN FOR STATE ACTION

Saul Cooperman
Commissioner of Education

Sylvia M. Roberts, Director
Division of Compensatory/Bilingual Education

New Jersey State Department of Education
225 West State Street
CN 500
Trenton, NJ 08625-0500

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"Like all New Jersey children, homeless youngsters must be offered the opportunity for a thorough and efficient education. That is their lifeline out of poverty and despair and it is their right according to the constitution of this state."

Saul Cooperman, Commissioner of Education

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Changing Face of Homelessness

Most people in the United States today are aware that homelessness is one of our nation's most critical problems. They are less aware, however, that the nature of this problem has changed over the past decade. What was for many years a population consisting largely of white, male, unemployed single adults now includes many families, unaccompanied youths, individuals forced into separation from their families in order to receive temporary shelter, elderly, disabled, and ethnic and racial minorities. Families now represent more than one-third, or 40 percent, of the homeless and are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population in the United States. About 20 to 30 percent of the homeless are fully or partially employed.

Homeless Children and Youth

Children and unaccompanied youth comprise approximately one-quarter of the total homeless population in the United States. It has also been documented by the U.S. Department of Education in a report presented to Congress in February 1989 that there are an estimated 220,000 school-age homeless children throughout the United States and that approximately 30 percent of these identified children are not attending school.

Whether from lack of access or restriction of access, the effect is the same: many children and youth, as a direct consequence of their parents' homelessness, are unable to attend school. Those who do enroll face other difficulties as manifested in high drop-out rates, irregular attendance, and poor academic performance.

New Jersey has a legal mandate to provide a "thorough and efficient" education to all children in New Jersey. This plan for state action, developed under the auspices of the federal Stewart B. McKinney Act, is designed to address that goal for homeless children and youth.

The Stewart B. McKinney Act

The Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (P.L. 100-77) was signed into law on July 22, 1987. Subtitle B of that act deals with education for homeless children and youth (Appendix A).

This legislation provides states with the direction and wherewithal to assure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth have the same access to a free and appropriate public education that would be provided for any other state resident, consistent with state laws governing school attendance. States whose compulsory attendance laws include residency requirements have been advised to review and to "take steps to revise" such laws to ensure educational access for homeless children and youth.

The following sections briefly describe the requirements contained in the education section of the McKinney Act.

Definition of "Homeless Children and Youth"

Section 103(a)(1)(2) of the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act defines a homeless individual as:

> one who (1) lacks a fixed, regular and adequate residence or (2) has a primary nighttime residence in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter for temporary accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill), an institution providing temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Section 103(c) of the Act specifically excludes from the definition of homeless individuals any person who is imprisoned or otherwise detained by Act of Congress or State law.

Use of Funds

Grants under the education section of the act are to be used to: 1) review and revise residency laws, as described above; 2) establish a state-level office for the coordination of education for homeless children and youth; and 3) to develop and carry out a state plan which will ensure access to education for homeless children and youth.

Data-gathering

The act directs the homeless office to gather data on the number and location of homeless children and youth in the state. Such data are to include the nature and extent of problems of access to and placement of these children and youth in school, and the difficulties in identifying their special needs.

Placement Procedures

The act directs each state to include in its plan procedures for resolving disputes about the educational placement of homeless children and youth consistent with the "best interest of the child." This means that the child or youth may attend school either in the school district of residence, the district in which the parent or guardian last resided prior to becoming homeless or in the district where he or she is actually living, depending upon which district best serves the needs of the student. This principle is to guide placement decisions, regardless of whether the child is living with the natural parents, is in foster care or has been surviving independently.

Comparable Services

Also included in the McKinney Act are provisions directing states to ensure that homeless children receive services comparable with those provided other children in school. These are to include all services for which the child meets eligibility criteria, e.g., compensatory education, special education, educational programs for limited English proficient and gifted and talented students; and school meals programs.

School Records

To ensure that lack of school records do not prevent homeless children and youth from enrolling in a new school, the McKinney Act directs that records be maintained so that they are "available in a timely fashion" when the child enters a new school district.

Exemplary Programs

State and local educational agencies are encouraged to develop and recognize exemplary elementary and secondary school programs that successfully address the educational and special needs of homeless students.

Funding

The McKinney Act provides funding to state education agencies to assist in complying with the mandates of the law. The New Jersey State Department of Education submitted its application for Stewart B. McKinney Act funds in January 1988 and was approved for $129,619 in federal funding for the 1988-89 school year. An application for funding for the 1989-90 school year in the amount of $128,070 was submitted in April 1989.

Establishment of the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth

An Office for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth was established in the Division of Compensatory/Bilingual Education of the New Jersey State Department of Education with the appointment of a coordinator in February 1988. The search for staff began immediately and by August 1988 two full-time professionals had been hired. The following highlights the initial activities of the office:

Review of Residency

As directed by the Stewart B. McKinney Act, residency requirements were reviewed. New Jersey's current residency requirements entitle every student to a free, public education in the school district where he or she is domiciled [N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 (a)]. The law also stipulates that those students whose parents or guardians are temporary residents, even though not domiciled within the district, are entitled to attend public schools in the temporary district of residence [N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 (d)].

The New Jersey Commissioner of Education, in a memo to all chief school administrators on September 1, 1988, reminded districts of existing residency requirements and of their obligation to ensure access for homeless children and youth (Appendix C). He also informed them that he would recommend that the State Board of Education consider requests for funds under the Emergency Aid Act (N.J.S.A. 18A:58-11) for districts experiencing financial hardship caused by the relocation of homeless families. They were advised to apply for such funds and for emergency transportation aid (N.J.S.A. 18A:39), if needed, through their county offices of education.

While it was clear that current state residency requirements did not deny homeless children and youth access to public schools, it was also evident from a review of the requirements that they did not address the issue of

homelessness directly or the McKinney Act provision to permit homeless students to attend school in either the district of residence or the district where they are temporarily living. Suggested revisions to the current residency requirements, therefore, were drafted by Department of Education staff and presented as a proposal for amendments to Senate Bill Number 2352 (Appendix B). The amendments defined "homeless" persons as individuals who temporarily lack a fixed, regular and adequate residence and set forth specific procedures for determining the district of residence and appropriate educational placement.

The proposed amendments designate the district of residence as responsible for the educational placement decision after consultation with the parent or guardian. This determination shall be:

- to continue the student's education in the school district of last attendance;
- to enroll the student in the district of residence if the district of residence is not the district of last attendance; or
- to enroll the student in the school district where the student is temporarily living

whichever is in the student's best interest.

The amendments clarified the responsibilities of the district of residence for payment of tuition and transportation for homeless students. They also delineated the method by which decisions regarding the issue of placement could be appealed.

Coordination

The Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth established ongoing working relationships with the department's Division of Adult Education, the Department of Human Services, the inter-faith network, advocacy groups, and others responsible for, working with, and concerned about the homeless. The office also developed an intra-state response network by identifying a homeless education contact person in each county office of education. These contact persons are responsible for the resolution of cases involving homeless students in districts in their county.

Technical Assistance

While developing the state plan and awaiting passage of the amendments to residency requirements, the office handled matters relating to educational access for the homeless on a case-by-case basis according to the general principles outlined by the Commissioner on September 1, 1988 (Appendix C). Since the establishment of the office in February 1988 the office has helped to resolve more than 125 such cases.

Homeless Assistance Work Group

A Homeless Assistance Work Group, under the auspices of the Governor's Office of Policy and Planning, began development in Spring 1988 of a profile of

New Jersey's efforts to combat the problem of homelessness. The profile included characteristics of programs specifically aimed at helping the homeless, estimates of the extent to which programs not specifically targeted to that population helped homeless people, and descriptions of exemplary local programs supported at least in part by state funds.

The Department of Education is represented in this work group by staff from the Office for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth. Their report on educational programs for the homeless, a summary of work of the office to date, comprised Section I (pp. 9-10) of the 1989 Comprehensive Homeless Plan published in January 1989.

II. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Two studies, representing the coordinated efforts of the State Departments of Education and Human Services, were used as bases for determining the primary educational needs of homeless children and youth in New Jersey. The first was a survey conducted by the Department of Human Services covering the time period from November 1986 through November 1987. The second was a survey conducted by the Department of Education in cooperation with the Department of Human Services on a single day, November 18, 1988 (Appendix D). Following are the descriptions and results of each study.

Department of Human Services Study

Purpose

The purpose of this study was to identify the educational issues emerging as a result of the increase in the number of homeless families with children in New Jersey from November 1986 through November 1987.

Data Collection Instrument

The Department of Human Services' data collection instrument was designed as a tool to help in gaining some insight into the problem facing shelter providers and public agencies. Questions were derived from discussions with department representative unit members; current newspaper, magazine and journal articles; New Jersey statutes and prior task force reports; and studies prepared by the Department of Human Services.

The questionnaire was divided into two parts. The first section requested:

- the numbers of children residing in temporary shelters over the past year;
- the average age range; and
- the estimated percentage of these children that were educationally handicapped.

The second section requested that agencies address five specific issues:

- the responsibility for notifying school districts that a homeless child is in need of educational services;
- school district response to the enrollment of in-district homeless school-age children;
- the means of conflict resolution;
- the location in which services currently were provided; and
- the main obstacles to the effective provision of educational services to homeless children and youth.

Due to the complexity of the problem, respondents were encouraged to expand on each issue and to select multiple answers if they wished.

Administration of the Survey

The data collection forms were distributed by the Department of Human Services to shelter providers and public social service agencies in each county in order to elicit as broad a range of responses as possible. The overall response rate was 40 percent.

Results: Numbers Served

Respondents indicated that 19,901 children and youth had been served during the 1986-87 year. Of these, 54 percent were served by county and state agencies, 39 percent in family shelters, and 7 percent in shelters for persons seeking refuge from domestic violence. Age and school level groups served are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Number of Homeless Children/Youth Served, November 1986 through November 1987, by School/Age Groups

School Level/Grade	Ages	Numbers
0-Elementary (0-6)	0-10	15,324
Middle-High School (7-12)	11-15	4,577
Total		19,901

It is clear from these data that most of the homeless children are under 10 years of age and are served by county and state agencies or family shelters. In reviewing the data, it should be noted that the count of children and youth served represents an aggregate number based on the 40 percent response rate. Because of the mobility of this population and the necessity of recording individuals at each instance of service, the probability is that the figure of 19,901 is a duplicated count. It should also be noted that the age groups 0-10 includes a number of children who are not yet of school age.

Results: Special Educational Needs

The focus of the educational needs section of the study was on children classified as educationally handicapped. With regard to the number of children classified, a majority (54 percent) of the respondents indicated varying degrees of handicapping conditions among their populations. The remaining 46 percent reported that they did not have access to the educational information that would make such a determination possible.

Results: Obstacles to the Provision of Educational Services

Respondents to the second portion of the survey indicated that the primary obstacles faced by homeless children and youth in obtaining educational services were:

- residency requirements;
- lack of transportation; and
- delays in transmission of school and health records.

Examples frequently cited were such things as the districts' administration of tests to determine placement and the unavailability of health records.

Department of Education Study

Purpose

The purpose of this study, conducted on November 18, 1988, was threefold: 1) to determine the number of homeless children and youth in New Jersey on a given day; 2) to further identify and verify obstacles to the provision of educational services to this population; and 3) to identify the educational needs of homeless children and youth.

Data Collection Instrument

The instrument used was a questionnaire (Appendix D) designed by Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth staff for this survey. The questionnaire was divided into the following five sections:

- the current number of homeless children and youth by school and age level and location;
- the number of children who are attending or not attending school;
- the type of facilities where homeless children are temporarily housed;
- the educational obstacles faced by homeless children and youth; and
- the special educational needs of this population.

Administration of the Survey

The Department of Education, assisted by the Department of Human Services, targeted major shelters, social service agencies, county boards of social services, runaway shelters, domestic violence shelters and inter-faith networks in each county and distributed a total of 100 questionnaires to these groups.

Eighty-two completed questionnaires were returned to the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth, representing the unusually high response rate of 82 percent (Appendix E). All twenty-one county boards of social services responded. These are the major providers of services to homeless families.

Results: Numbers Served

The total number of children and youth served on November 18, 1988, was 3,697. Table 2 summarizes the number of homeless children and youth by school and age level.

Table 2
Numbers of Homeless Children/Youth Served by School/Age Groups

School Level	Ages	Numbers
Preschool	3-4	861
Elementary (K-6)	5-11	1,526
Middle/Jr. High (7-9)	12-14	856
High School (10-12)	15-18	454
		3,697

Table 2 shows the numbers identified in each school level/age group category. As in the Department of Human Services study, the majority of homeless children were below secondary school age. Additionally, these data show that the number of children of elementary school age is nearly twice that of the number below age 5.

Table 3 shows the distribution by shelter type. As can be seen, the vast majority of these children were sheltered in motels or hotels. Some respondents included infants and children below age three in their counts, which is the reason for the difference in the total number reported in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 3
Homeless Children/Youth Served by Type of Shelter

Type of Shelter	No.
Publicly operated shelters	297
Privately operated shelters	549
Relatives or friends	273
Motels/hotels	2,581
Transitional housing	72
Total	3,772

Municipalities having the greatest numbers of homeless children and youth are shown in Table 4. As can be seen, Essex County, and the City of Newark, in particular, have the greatest concentration of students.

Table 4
Numbers of Homeless Children and Youth by County

County	No.	Percent of Total
Atlantic	154	4%
Bergen	73	2%
Burlington	202	5%
Camden	112	3%
Cape May	0	0%
Cumberland	197	5%
Essex	1,040	28%
Gloucester	51	1%
Hudson	322	9%
Hunterdon	1	0%
Mercer	118	3%
Middlesex	116	3%
Monmouth	460	12%
Morris	39	1%
Ocean	262	7%
Passaic	316	9%
Salem	31	1%
Somerset	35	1%
Sussex	21	1%
Union	131	4%
Warren	16	1%
TOTAL	3,697	100%

In response to the question about school attendance, participants reported that 1,736 homeless students were currently attending school and 364 were not attending school. Respondents in some counties either did not respond to the item or reported that they were unable to answer the question because they had no knowledge of whether the children and youth were attending school.

Results: Obstacles to the Provision of Educational Services

Lack of transportation was identified as the single biggest obstacle delaying or preventing homeless children and youth from receiving educational services. This was followed by residency requirements, lack of follow-up, and delays in transmission of school records. The following briefly describes each of these obstacles:

- Lack of Transportation: Out of the 21 counties surveyed, 12 listed transportation as the number one issue. This is particularly critical when motels are located near busy highways or if families request that their children be sent across school boundaries to the original district of residence.

- Residency Requirements: This is often a problem when families are temporarily housed in school districts outside of the original municipality and parents request that their children continue in the

district of residence, the district where the family resided prior to becoming homeless.

- Lack of Follow-up: There appear to be no procedures in place to advise school districts when children are placed in motels and hotels; therefore school district personnel are often not aware of the presence of children in these temporary settings. Because the survival needs of the family demand more immediate attention, county social service providers are often unable to follow up to ensure that children are registered in school. Homeless parents are often unable to enroll their children in school because of the crisis of homelessness or the lack of information about transfer and enrollment procedures.

- School Records: The immediate enrollment of homeless students in school is often delayed because health and school records from the previous school have not yet been obtained.

Results: Educational Needs

Respondents identified the need for services such as special, compensatory and bilingual/English as a Second Language (ESL) education as the most pressing educational need of the children and youth they served. They also indicated a need for counseling, after-school activities and alternative educational programs.

Also described by respondents were the difficulties they faced in identifying educational needs. These included:

- Frequent relocation of families and the transitory nature of homelessness, causing families to move from district to district;

- Priority given to survival needs (permanent housing, food, clothing, and good medical care), causing educational needs to recede in importance;

- Difficulty in proper assessment of educational needs because of frequent moves from district to district; and

- Delays in transfer of school records between districts.

Conclusions

The Population

Data from the two surveys, as well as information gathered by the Department of Education on a case-by-case basis, would seem to indicate that the number of homeless children and youth from preschool through high school age (3-18) in New Jersey is at least 3,697 on a given day and between 10,000 to 15,000 over a one-year period. Repeated sampling would be needed, of course, to verify this. The figure from the one-day survey does include a small percentage of children and youth who are served as individuals apart from their families. It does not include, however, those children and youth who have not entered the social services network and may be sleeping in the

streets, in makeshift shelters or in cars. Figures for this population could not be obtained.

Obstacles

The two surveys were in marked agreement with regard to obstacles faced by homeless children and youth in obtaining access to educational services. Transportation, residency requirements, lack of follow-up, and unavailability of or delays in transmission of academic and medical records emerge as the major obstacles faced by homeless children and youth. These are consistent with findings in other states and from other research available to date.

The following chapter details specific obstacles in these categories as well as others identified from research and case-by-case assessment. Immediate and future objectives, together with activities, timelines and monitoring and evaluation procedures are also included.

III. THE STATE'S ROLE IN THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The surveys conducted by the departments of Education and Human Services point to several critical obstacles that often impede homeless children and youth from obtaining the educational services to which they are entitled. In addition to those obstacles identified directly by social service providers in the field, the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth has included others. These were culled from the experience of the staff in working on over 125 different cases involving the education of homeless students. A review of national reports and articles from periodicals was also completed, a valuable source for identifying other obstacles.

The following section summarizes nine obstacles identified as the major problem areas for New Jersey's homeless students.

EDUCATIONAL OBSTACLES FACED BY NEW JERSEY'S HOMELESS STUDENTS

1. **Residency Requirements**

   - Inability of some homeless students to enroll in school and attend class regularly;
   - Inflexible residency requirements and/or interpretation of such requirements;
   - Guardianship prerequisites for school registration;
   - Lack of efficient and sound procedures for resolving placement disputes in "the best interest of the child or youth;" and
   - Lack of an appeal process which addresses the specific circumstances of homelessness, should parents object to school placement decisions.

2. **Transportation**

   - Unavailability of district transportation in many urban school districts;
   - Lack of transportation from motel or shelter in district where temporarily living to district of residence;
   - Limited abilities of families to provide transportation;
   - Location of motels and hotels on busy highways and other roadways; and
   - Lack of state policy on the provision of transportation to homeless students across district and county boundaries.

3. **School and Health Records**

- Lack of timely enrollment due to variations in school district policies regarding school and health records;
- Denial of registration due to lack of school and health records from a previous school district;
- Lack of promptness in sending records from one district to another;
- Delay of school enrollment until records are sent; and
- Incomplete records sent by previous school district.

4. **Educational Services**

- Inappropriate placement because of delayed or incomplete records;
- Exacerbation of learning problems and increase in educational needs due to the condition of homelessness;
- High mobility, leading to discontinuity of educational services;
- Complexity of special education requirements for those who need such services;
- Lack of continuity in programs such as special education, compensatory and bilingual/ESL education due to mobility;
- Lack of accurate data on the number, location and educational needs of this population; and
- Exclusion of many homeless preschool age children from participation in early intervention or preschool programs.

5. **Coordination**

- Lack of a consistent statewide procedure which considers the educational needs of homeless children when making shelter placement decisions;
- Lack of coordination among service providers and educational agencies;
- Inadequate outreach and follow-up procedures; and
- Absence of uniform intrastate or interstate policies on education of homeless students.

6. **Establishment of Exemplary Programs**

- Lack of process by which exemplary programs can be identified, evaluated and disseminated to school districts; and

- Lack of state and federal funding to support exemplary projects.

7. **State Monitoring**

   - Lack of criteria related specifically to educational services for homeless students in current Department of Education monitoring instruments and procedures;
   - Lack of guidelines for monitoring educational services to homeless children and youth; and
   - Lack of defined procedures for districts that are not in compliance with state and federal mandates.

8. **Public Awareness**

   - Lack of awareness that the press of survival needs of homeless families sometimes makes the need for education seem less urgent;
   - Lack of information about rights, needs, enrollment procedures, transportation, and access to other social services;
   - Lack of awareness of the embarrassment, shame and social stigma that often results from the condition of homelessness;
   - Lack of information resulting in the persistence of stereotypes based on outmoded images of homelessness; and
   - Lack of opportunities to sensitize service providers, parents, teachers and students concerning the problems resulting from homelessness.

9. **Supplementary, Supportive Services**

   The following obstacles are less directly within the control of educational agencies than are those in the preceding list. Nevertheless, because they appear repeatedly in interview and case report data and in the literature on homelessness, and because they bear directly on the accessibility of education to homeless children and youth, they have been included in this section. They include need for;

   - adequate health and nutrition services;
   - space, equipment and materials for homework;
   - access to recreational and social activities; and
   - pre-school educational opportunities.

Based on the above nine areas, the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth has defined 12 major objectives for the state's action plan. These program objectives will address the comprehensive needs of homeless school age children in New Jersey.

NEW JERSEY'S RESPONSE TO EDUCATIONAL OBSTACLES

Objectives

1. To ensure that all homeless children and youth have access to a free and appropriate public education.

2. To revise current residency requirements to better address the needs of homeless students.

3. To ensure that homeless student school placement decisions are made in the best interest of the student.

4. To provide technical assistance to school districts in developing and implementing transportation systems which meet the needs of homeless students.

5. To assist districts in developing and implementing alternative registration and transfer policies which ensure that school and health records of homeless students are available for immediate entrance to school.

6. To ensure that all homeless students receive educational services comparable to services offered to other students, including educational programs such as compensatory, bilingual and special education programs.

7. To provide technical assistance to school districts, social service providers and parents in meeting the unique educational needs of homeless children and youth.

8. To facilitate the establishment of linkages between social service agencies, school districts, advocacy groups and other state agencies in order to effectively meet the needs of homeless children.

9. To identify, recognize and disseminate information on exemplary educational programs and practices for homeless children and youth.

10. To monitor educational and other related services provided to homeless children and youth.

11. To increase public awareness of, and sensitivity to, the issues surrounding homelessness and its effects on children and youth.

12. To assist districts in developing programs of supplementary supportive services, including health, nutrition, recreation and social services for homeless students.

The following section describes how each objective will be addressed. Specific activities, timelines and responsible staff are indicated.

OBJECTIVE 1: To ensure that all homeless children and youth have access to a free and appropriate public education.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Clarify and disseminate communication that each district is responsible for ensuring that all homeless children and youth attend school.	September 1988 and Ongoing	Commissioner of Education
2. Compile a list of designated staff in districts having homeless students. These persons would be responsible for ensuring that all homeless children and youth are enrolled in school and receiving appropriate educational services.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
3. Establish formal system between social service providers and school districts which ensures that all homeless children and youth are attending school.	September 1989 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts
4. Conduct annual survey to ascertain number, location, educational needs and services provided to homeless children and youth.	November 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
5. Review homeless student survey results, case studies and other information to project the number and location of homeless children and youth who are <u>not</u> attending school.	January 1989 and January 1990	Homeless Education Staff
6. Assist school districts in developing a specific outreach plan which includes parents so that homeless children and youth housed in their district attend school.	April to September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
7. Develop and disseminate pamphlet for parents on the educational rights of homeless children and youth.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
8. Monitor this plan as part of the state monitoring system.	September 1989 to June 1990 and Beyond	County Superintendents, Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts
9. Provide assistance to social service providers in developing case management strategies which enforce the state's compulsory attendance education laws.	October 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
10. Coordinate the training of social service providers regarding the educational needs of homeless students.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
11. Study the impact of the above activities by annually reviewing data on the number of homeless children and youth not attending school.	January 1990 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
12. Review possible funding sources for districts heavily affected by large numbers of homeless children and youth.	September 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff

OBJECTIVE 2: To revise current residency requirements to better address the needs of homeless students.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Review current state residency law to determine if consistent with the McKinney Act.	March 1988	Homeless Education Staff
2. Review documented cases of residency concerns from school districts, social service providers, advocacy groups and homeless parents.	May 1988	Homeless Education Staff
3. Draft proposed legislation which would revise state's residency law to be consistent with the requirements of the McKinney Act. The legislation would: • establish the district of residence (district where family resided prior to becoming homeless) as responsible for the education of homeless students and for determining the educational placement; and • permit placement decisions to be made in the district of residence, the district where the child last resided, or the district where the child is temporarily living.	June 1988	Office of Legislative Services, Homeless Education Staff
4. Discuss proposed legislation with senior department staff, other state agencies, social service providers and advocacy groups e.g., Department of Human Services, Office of the Public Advocate.	July and August 1988	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education Staff
5. Work with legislators in obtaining support for proposed legislation.	September 1988	Office of Legislative Services

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
6. Develop and distribute to all school districts, social service providers and advocacy groups guidelines for dealing with homeless educational issues.	September 1988	Commissioner of Education
7. Monitor progress of proposed bill to passage in legislature.	September 1988 to passage (Projected in Spring 1989)	Office of Legislative Services
8. Develop administrative code after bill is adopted into law.	Spring 1989	Homeless Education Staff
9. Follow State Board of Education administrative code adoption process.	Fall 1989	Homeless Education Staff
10. Disseminate administrative code to all school districts, social service providers and advocacy groups after State Board adoption.	Fall 1989	Homeless Education Staff
11. Provide inservice training and technical assistance to ensure all school districts are in compliance with new law.	Fall 1989	Homeless Education Staff
12. Add provisions of new administrative code to current state monitoring system.	Fall 1989	Homeless Education Staff

OBJECTIVE 3: To ensure that homeless student school placement decisions are made in the best interest of the student.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Require that the district of residence make school placement decisions in the best interest of the student based on the following criteria: • view of parent or guardian; • continuity of educational program; • need for special instructional programs such as compensatory, bilingual and special education programs; and • transportation and travel time.	September 1988	Commissioner of Education
2. Ensure that the placement decisions of homeless secondary students close to graduation are made in their best interest with consideration given to high school graduation requirements and district policies regarding the number of credits.	September 1989	Commissioner of Education
3. Require that the district of residence make the placement decision as soon as possible after notification of the need for placement of a homeless student.	September 1989	Commissioner of Education
4. Disseminate information to school districts, social service providers, advocacy groups, parents and students.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
5. Include above criteria in administrative code clarifying residency requirements for homeless children and youth after proposed residency legislation is adopted.	Fall 1989	Homeless Education Staff
6. Follow the state's appeal process to resolve disputes regarding educational placement of homeless children and youth.	September 1988 and Ongoing	County Superintendents

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
7. Require that the district of residence ensures that the homeless student continues to attend school during an appeal process in the district of residence or, in the event of excessive distance, the district where the child is temporarily residing.	September 1989	Commissioner of Education
8. Monitor school districts to ensure that homeless student placement decisions are made in accordance with above criteria.	September 1989 to June 1990 and Beyond	County Superintendents, Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts

OBJECTIVE 4: To provide technical assistance to school districts in developing and implementing transportation systems which meet the needs of homeless students.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Disseminate information that school districts providing educational services to homeless students are responsible for coordinating transportation.	September 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff via Commissioner's Memo
2. Develop guidelines which clearly define who is responsible for transporting students, options for providing transportation and factors affecting transportation such as travel time, distance and safety considerations.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
3. Explore funding sources to assist school districts in providing transportation, e.g., Department of Human Services, Division of Public Welfare, Department of Education and McKinney Act funds (other than subtitle B, Section 722).	September 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts
4. Disseminate administrative code (after adoption of revised residency requirements) which will stipulate that the district of residence is responsible for transportation costs when homeless students attend school in the district of residence, the district of last attendance or the temporary district.	Fall 1989	Homeless Education Staff
5. Identify counties which have developed successful transportation strategies as models for other counties.	April 1989 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
6. Monitor to ensure that school districts appropriately provide transportation services for homeless students.	September 1989 to June 1990 and Beyond	County Superintendents, Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts

OBJECTIVE 5: To assist districts in developing and implementing alternative registration and transfer policies which ensure that school and health records of homeless students are available for immediate entrance to school.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Communicate to districts that delays in the receipt of school or medical records must not preclude timely registration and immediate entrance of homeless students to school.	September 1988 and Ongoing	Commissioner of Education
2. Communicate to districts that all homeless children and youth must be enrolled in school in a timely manner.	September 1989	Commissioner of Education
3. Develop procedure by which a parent or guardian is informed of school placement options and aware of his/her responsibility to enroll children in school.	July and August 1989	Homeless Education Staff
4. Review current state and district policies regarding registration and transfer of students.	June 1989	Homeless Education Staff
5. Establish specific strategies addressing school and health records and timelines applicable to all school districts that would result in timely registration and immediate entrance of homeless students to school.	August 1989	Homeless Education Staff
6. Encourage school districts to assist homeless families in securing school and health records and to obtain proper immunization.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
7. Disseminate department policy outlining criteria to ensure that homeless students have immediate access to school.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
8. Provide school districts with assistance in implementing policy.	September 1989 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts
9. Monitor to ensure that school districts enroll homeless students according to state policy.	September 1989 to June 1990 and Beyond	County Superintendents, Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts

OBJECTIVE 6: To ensure that all homeless students receive educational services comparable to services offered to other students, including educational programs such as compensatory, bilingual and special education programs.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Encourage timely identification and assessment of homeless students in order to provide the educational services they require.	September 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts
2. Assist districts in developing a procedure by which the status of needs assessments and/or child study team investigations of homeless students who are placed in a new district can be determined so that the results are utilized for appropriate placement.	July to September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
3. Coordinate services to districts having large numbers of homeless students requiring compensatory, bilingual and special education programs.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff and County Contracts
4. Review and revise the 1988 Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth Survey form to include information about the educational services provided to homeless students.	July to September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
5. Collect yearly data from social service providers and school districts on number, location, educational needs and services provided to homeless children and youth.	November 1988 and November 1989	Homeless Education Staff
6. Analyze data to identify gaps and/or inequities in services at the district level.	December 1989 to February 1990	Homeless Education Staff
7. Explore reasons behind identified inequities and gaps.	March and April 1990	Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
8. Provide direct technical assistance to targeted school districts and social service providers in order to ensure that homeless students receive appropriate educational services.	April to June 1990	Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts
9. Monitor districts to ensure that homeless students receive appropriate educational services.	September 1990 to June 1991 and Beyond	County Superintendents, Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts
10. Study mechanisms which facilitate the inclusion of homeless preschool students in early intervention and/or preschool programs.	January 1990 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff

OBJECTIVE 7: To provide technical assistance to school districts, social service providers and parents in meeting the unique educational needs of homeless children and youth.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Establish technical assistance procedure by identifying a homeless education contact person in each county office of education.	September 1988	Homeless Education Staff
2. Provide training for county office contacts on the issues surrounding homelessness, the effects on children and youth and the mandates of the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth.	September 1989 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
3. Identify training needs of school districts, social service providers and parents by including training information on annual Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth survey.	November 1989	Homeless Education Staff
4. Establish and disseminate a statewide resource list of recognized experts including social service providers, educators and advocates, who are knowledgeable regarding the particular needs of homeless students and the social service agencies who serve them.	December 1989	Homeless Education Staff
5. Develop and disseminate pamphlet for parents on the educational rights of homeless children and youth.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
6. Coordinate workshops and information sessions, planned and executed by experts, involving educators, shelter providers, advocates, etc.	September 1989 to June 1990 and Beyond	Homeless Education Staff
7. Disseminate to school districts models of coordinated service to homeless students.	January 1990 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
8. Conduct countywide meetings on issues concerning the education of homeless children and youth.	January 1990	Homeless Education Staff
9. Coordinate with other state agencies to plan and hold a statewide conference on homeless children and youth.	Spring 1991	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Staff and other Agencies

OBJECTIVE 8: To facilitate the establishment of linkages between social service agencies, school districts, advocacy groups and other state agencies in order to effectively meet the needs of homeless children.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Develop system between County Boards of Social Service and school districts whereby homeless students are identified so that the registration process is begun as soon as possible.	June to August 1989	Homeless Education Staff and Department of Human Services Staff
2. Identify and develop statewide list of social service providers involved with homeless families.	June to August 1989	Homeless Education Staff
3. Disseminate resource list of social service providers to all school districts.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
4. Participate in local, county and state-level committees which deal with homeless education issues.	September 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
5. Establish State Advisory Council on Homeless Children and Youth.	October 1989	Homeless Education Staff
6. Coordinate meetings of State Advisory Council on Homeless Children and Youth with representatives from school districts, social service providers, advocacy groups, state agencies and parents.	October 1989 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
7. Coordinate county assistance network of school districts and local resources to meet the educational needs of homeless children in that county.	November 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
8. Continue participation in Governor's Work Group on Homelessness in New Jersey, a network of state agencies providing services to the homeless.	February 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
9. Coordinate with other state agencies to plan and hold a statewide conference on homeless children and youth.	Spring 1991	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education and other Agencies
10. Participate in national and regional meetings of state homeless education coordinators from around the country to develop systems of information exchange and problem resolution.	November 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff

OBJECTIVE 9: To identify, recognize and disseminate information on exemplary educational programs and practices for homeless children and youth.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Develop criteria for identifying exemplary homeless education programs and practices.	January 1990	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education Staff
2. Identify existing exemplary homeless education programs and practices.	September 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
3. Disseminate criteria and application form to school districts and/or interested agencies and encourage participation.	March 1990	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education Staff
4. Review submitted applications and rate according to established criteria.	April 1990	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education Staff
5. Select and visit programs.	April and May 1990	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education Staff
6. Review above data and make final selection of exemplary educational programs for homeless children and youth.	June to August 1990	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education Staff
7. Recognize and disseminate program information for replication in other communities.	September 1990 and Ongoing	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education Staff
8. Provide technical assistance in developing exemplary programs and practices which meet the educational needs of homeless students.	September 1990 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
9. Encourage development of countywide programs among school districts and social service providers.	September 1990 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
10. Explore public and private funding sources to support and expand exemplary programs.	January 1990 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
11. Support state and federal legislative efforts that provide funding for these services.	November 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff

OBJECTIVE 10: To monitor educational and other related services provided to homeless children and youth.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Develop a plan for monitoring state and federal mandates regarding the education of homeless students.	Fall 1989	Homeless Education Staff and County Offices
2. Include the following areas to be monitored: • outreach plans of targeted school districts that ensure homeless students attend school; • placement decisions to verify compliance with "best interest" provisions; • transportation provided according to state policy; • appropriate educational services provided based on needs of students; and • school and health records policies that ensure that homeless students can enroll in school immediately.	Fall 1989	Homeless Education Staff and County Offices
3. Evaluate results of monitoring and develop reports with recommendations for improving services to homeless students.	Spring 1989 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff and County Offices

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OBJECTIVE 11: To increase public awareness of, and sensitivity to, the issues surrounding homelessness and its effects on children and youth.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Disseminate information about the establishment of the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth and the Department of Education's response to the needs of this population and the federal Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.	September 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
2. Establish statewide contact number, (609) 292-8777 (Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth), as a source of answers to individual questions and concerns.	September 1988	Homeless Education Staff
3. Serve as an information clearinghouse for school districts, social service providers, advocates, parents and the community at large.	September 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts
4. Develop a television guest editorial regarding the educational rights of homeless students for local TV stations.	November 1988	Homeless Education Staff and Public Information Staff
5. Support and encourage public awareness initiatives on the needs of homeless children and youth such as the Department of Education's toy and clothing drive at Christmas and recruitment of volunteers to assist the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen.	November 1988 and Ongoing	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education Staff
6. Coordinate workshops for school districts and social service providers which will:	September 1989 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff and County Contacts

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
• Sensitize teachers and administrators to the needs of homeless students and offer recommendations in meeting their needs. • Sensitize social service providers to the educational needs unique to homeless students and the importance of ongoing communication with the schools.		
7. Coordinate with other state agencies to plan and hold a statewide conference on homeless children and youth.	Spring 1991	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education and other Agencies

OBJECTIVE 12: To assist districts in developing programs of supplementary supportive services, including heath, nutrition, recreation and social services for homeless students.

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
1. Consult with the Bureau of Child Nutrition to ensure that food services address the nutritional requirements of homeless students.	July and August 1989	Homeless Education Staff
2. Develop strategies which facilitate the health screening process of homeless students at school district level.	July and August 1989	Homeless Education Staff
3. Survey districts regarding the health, nutritional, recreational and social needs of their homeless student population.	November 1989 and November 1990	Homeless Education Staff
4. Develop strategies and activities to meet the specific needs identified by district surveys.	December 1989 to February 1990	Homeless Education Staff
5. Establish networks with nutritional, health, recreational and counseling agencies.	January to June 1990	Homeless Education Staff
6. Establish and disseminate statewide list of agencies serving homeless families.	September 1989	Homeless Education Staff
7. Encourage and facilitate the development of programs which address the educational, physical, social and psychological needs of homeless children and youth which may include the following: • tutoring; • counseling services; • enrichment activities; • recreation activities; • summer programs; • nutritional support; • health and hygiene counseling; and • parental involvement.	June to August 1989	Homeless Education Staff

Activities	Timelines	Person(s) Responsible
8. Explore the development of programs which meet the academic and non-academic needs unique to runaway youth and dropout students who are homeless.	September 1989 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
9. Disseminate information about exemplary programs and practices to encourage district replication.	September 1990 and Ongoing	Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education Staff
10. Explore public and private funding sources to develop, support and expand programs.	January 1989 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff
11. Support state and federal legislative efforts that provide funding for these services.	November 1988 and Ongoing	Homeless Education Staff

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IV. PLAN OF OPERATION

Management Plan

All Department of Education activities and services will be under the direct supervision of the director, Division of Compensatory/Bilingual Education. Staff from the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth will implement all activities. This office will coordinate program activities with other state and local agencies providing services to homeless children and youth.

All program activities will be coordinated as follows:

- The manager of the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth will oversee all objectives and will be responsible for ensuring that activities are completed in a timely manner.
- Meetings will be held with county office of education staff assigned to serve as contacts to the office.
- Personnel from the Departments of Education and Human Services responsible for cooperative activities will meet on a regular basis to plan and coordinate.
- All activities will be documented and evaluated.
- The Department of Education abides by and follows all fiscal regulations and procedures of the State Department of Treasury. The treasury department governs the expenditures of all funds, including those related to federal grants. The control of the funds will be the responsibility of the director of the Division of Compensatory/Bilingual Education, who will keep an account of all balances and expenses.

Methods Used to Provide Services

To provide the major services proposed in the activities section, the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth will use the following:

- data gathering: through surveys, evaluation reports and questionnaires;
- training: through regional workshops, seminars, general meetings and on-site visits;
- program monitoring and evaluation: through on-site visits to school districts and shelters, interviews with staff, use of surveys and checklists;
- technical assistance: through on-site meetings, group sessions, seminars, workshops and published documents;

- information dissemination: through correspondence, newsletters, phone contacts, meetings, conferences, news releases, publications; and

- outreach activities: through mailings, direct phone contact, on-site visits, round-table discussions and conferences.

Evaluation

Throughout the development and implementation process, evaluation activities will be undertaken by the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth. These evaluation activities will measure progress made towards the objectives. The evaluation data will include the following:

- notices, agendas, minutes and records of attendance at meetings;

- workshop and conference evaluation forms;

- reports by staff;

- copies of documents and materials produced for dissemination;

- logs of technical assistance sessions; and

- program reports of field and monitoring visits to school districts.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

In order to ensure that the state plan included all the provisions necessary to facilitate the education of homeless children and to provide the public with the opportunity to comment, a draft of the plan was widely circulated throughout the state. Copies of the proposed plan were distributed to county superintendents, chief school administrators, county boards of social service, homeless, runaway and domestic violence directors, advocacy groups and interested citizens. All were urged to provide input over a 60-day period either by submitting written recommendations to the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth or testifying at one of the public hearings scheduled throughout the state. In conjunction with the wide dissemination of the proposed plan, the Department of Education sent a comprehensive news release to all major newspapers on the proposed plan, its availability for review and information about the public hearings.

All public hearings were scheduled in areas which reported the largest number of homeless children. They were held in centrally located schools during evening hours to allow for as much participation as possible. Hearings were conducted in Passaic, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Monmouth, Burlington, Camden and Cumberland counties. A total of 55 persons testified and input was received from homeless parents, school administrators, teachers, social service providers, advocacy groups and state, county and local agencies serving the homeless. While it was generally felt that the document was a comprehensive one, specific recommendations were offered to strengthen the effectiveness of the plan.

Recommendations from Public Testimony

The following are the major recommendations from the public hearings. The recommendations have been listed under the nine identified educational obstacles.

1. Residency Requirements

   - Articulate residency law to all school personnel.
   - Consider residency problems of runaway youth.
   - Address the unique needs of "dropout" students.
   - Consider "invisible" homeless children, those children who are described as "invisible" because their families are living with relatives or friends.
   - Develop system which ensures that high school seniors graduate with their class.
   - Develop on-site educational programs at shelter sites.
   - Ensure homeless students are absorbed into the mainstream of school life; children should not be stigmatized or ostracized.

- Ensure that best interest decisions are made by the parents.
- Ensure that best interest decisions are made promptly.
- Review district requirements whereby legal guardians must enroll children.

2. Transportation

- Inform districts of their obligation to transport students and monitor their response.
- Inform districts of their financial responsibility concerning transportation and available funding.
- Consider safety issues and location of motels when arranging transportation.
- Develop policy which waives two-mile limit for children living in motels.

3. School and Health Records

- Develop uniform policy on transfer of records.
- Develop statewide database record transfer system.
- Review legal requirements for transmission of records.
- Develop system which guarantees that records are transferred immediately.

4. Educational Services

- Ensure that all special education students are receiving services.
- Develop outreach programs to identify preschool handicapped children.
- Ensure that honors and gifted and talented children are placed appropriately.
- Consider the needs of special education children and high school seniors.

5. Coordination/Technical Assistance

- Develop parent training programs.
- Conduct child study team workshops.
- Develop training programs which ensure coordination among educators and social service providers.

- Develop pamphlet on the educational rights of homeless children.
- Develop in-service training programs for school personnel on new residency law.
- Develop and distribute to school districts a resource list of available support services.
- Develop system whereby social service agencies would notify districts of homeless families placed within their attendance areas.
- Ensure that social service placement agencies notify districts within 24 hours of placement of homeless families.
- Develop hotline for complaints.
- Develop system for formal communication between shelters and schools.
- Designate leadership roles in coordination of services.
- Require networking among Departments of Human Services, Community Affairs and Education.

6. Establishment of Exemplary Programs

- Establish funding to set up and expand existing programs for homeless children.
- Develop early childhood programs for homeless children.
- Recognize and fund tutorial and recreational programs.

7. State Monitoring

- Establish funding mechanism for homeless education programs.
- Ensure homeless education programs are monitored.

8. Public Awareness

- Facilitate activities at local and county level.

9. Supplementary, Supportive Services

- Develop after-school and enrichment programs.
- Provide counseling programs.
- Develop supplementary programs which address educational, physical, social and psychological needs of homeless children.

- Require breakfast programs for homeless children.
- Develop program to identify potential dropout students and develop prevention program.
- Recognize the need that space, equipment and materials for homework is vital.

All recommendations and comments were carefully reviewed and included in the plan where appropriate. Most suggestions were incorporated into the plan.

Those recommendations concerning supplementary and support services and coordination among educational agencies and social service providers received much attention from the public and as a result, were specifically addressed in the plan. Those recommendations that required the establishment of a specific program or required the use of funds were not included in the plan. There are, however, activities that explore the development of programs and funding issues.

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APPENDIX A

SECTION VIII (B)

STEWART B. MCKINNEY ACT

Subtitle B—Education for Homeless Children and Youth

SEC. 721. STATEMENT OF POLICY. 42 USC 11431.

It is the policy of the Congress that—

(1) each State educational agency shall assure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth have access to a free, appropriate public education which would be provided to the children of a resident of a State and is consistent with the State school attendance laws; and

(2) in any State that has a residency requirement as a component of its compulsory school attendance laws, the State will review and undertake steps to revise such laws to assure that the children of homeless individuals and homeless youth are afforded a free and appropriate public education.

SEC. 722. GRANTS FOR STATE ACTIVITIES FOR THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH. 42 USC 11432.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Education is, in accordance with the provisions of this section, authorized to make grants to States to carry out the activities described in subsections (c), (d), and (e).

(b) ALLOCATION.—From the amounts appropriated for each fiscal year pursuant to subsection (g), the Secretary shall allot to each State an amount which bears the same ratio to the amount appropriated in each such year as the amount allocated under section 111

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of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (as incorporated by reference in chapter 1 of the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act of 1981) to the local educational agencies in the State in that year bears to the total amount allocated to such agencies in all States, except that no State shall receive less than $50,000 in any fiscal year.

20 USC 2801 note.

(c) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Grants under this section shall be used—

(1) to carry out the policies set forth in section 721 in the State;

(2) to establish or designate an Office of Coordinator of Education of Homeless Children and Youth in accordance with subsection (d); and

Office of Coordinator of Education of Homeless Children and Youth, establishment.

(3) to prepare and carry out the State plan described in subsection (e).

(d) FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE OF COORDINATOR.—The Coordinator of Education of Homeless Children and Youth established in each State shall—

Schools and colleges.

(1) gather data on the number and location of homeless children and youth in the State, and such data gathering shall include the nature and extent of problems of access to, and placement of, homeless children and homeless youth in elementary and secondary schools, and the difficulties in identifying the special needs of such children;

(2) develop and carry out the State plan described in subsection (e); and

Reports.

(3) prepare and submit to the Secretary an interim report not later than December 31, 1987, and a final report not later than December 31, 1988, on the data gathered pursuant to paragraph (1).

To the extent that reliable current data is available in the State, each coordinator described in this subsection may use such data to fulfill the requirements of paragraph (1).

(e) STATE PLAN.—

(1) Each State shall adopt a plan to provide for the education of each homeless child or homeless youth within the State which will contain provisions designed to—

(A) authorize the State educational agency, the local educational agency, the parent or guardian of the homeless child, the homeless youth, or the applicable social worker to make the determinations required under this section; and

(B) provide procedures for the resolution of disputes regarding the educational placement of homeless children and youth.

(2) Each plan adopted under this subsection shall assure, to the extent practicable under requirements relating to education established by State law, that local educational agencies within the State will comply with the requirements of paragraphs (3) through (6).

(3) The local educational agency of each homeless child or youth shall either—

(A) continue the child's or youth's education in the school district of origin for the remainder of the school year; or

(B) enroll the child or youth in the school district where the child or youth is actually living;

whichever is in the child's best interest or the youth's best interest.

(4) The choice regarding placement shall be made regardless of whether the child or youth is living with the homeless parents or has been temporarily placed elsewhere by the parents.

(5) Each homeless child shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school selected according to the provisions of paragraph (3), including educational services for which the child meets the eligibility criteria, such as compensatory educational programs for the disadvantaged, and educational programs for the handicapped and for students with limited English proficiency; programs in vocational education; programs for the gifted and talented; and school meals programs.

(6) The school records of each homeless child or youth shall be maintained— Records.

(A) so that the records are available, in a timely fashion, when a child or youth enters a new school district; and

(B) in a manner consistent with section 438 of the General Education Provisions Act. 20 USC 1232g.

(f) APPLICATION.—No State may receive a grant under this section unless the State educational agency submits an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing or accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) There are authorized to be appropriated $5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1987 and 1988 to carry out the provisions of this section.

(2) Sums appropriated in each fiscal year shall remain available for the succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 722. EXEMPLARY GRANTS AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED. 42 USC 11433.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—

(1) The Secretary shall, from funds appropriated pursuant to subsection (f), make grants for exemplary programs that successfully address the needs of homeless students in elementary and secondary schools of the applicant.

(2) The Secretary shall, in accordance with subsection (e), conduct dissemination activities of exemplary programs designed to meet the educational needs of homeless elementary and secondary school students.

(b) APPLICANTS.—The Secretary shall make grants to State and local educational agencies for the purpose described in paragraph (1) of subsection (a).

(c) ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS.—No applicant may receive an exemplary grant under this section unless the applicant is located in a State which has submitted a State plan in accordance with the provisions of section 722.

(d) APPLICATION.—Each applicant which desires to receive a demonstration grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing or accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require. Each such application shall include—

(1) a description of the exemplary program for which assistance is sought;

(2) assurances that the applicant will transmit information with respect to the conduct of the program for which assistance is sought; and

(3) such additional assurances that the Secretary determines are necessary.

(e) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall, from funds appropriated pursuant to subsection (f), conduct, directly or indirectly by way of grant, contract, or other arrangement, dissemination activities designed to inform State and local educational agencies of exemplary programs which successfully address the special needs of homeless students.

(f) APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED.—There is authorized to be appropriated $2,500,000 for fiscal year 1988 to carry out the provisions of this section.

Reports.
42 USC 11434.

SEC. 724. NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

(a) GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall prepare and submit to the Congress not later than June 30, 1988, a report on the number of homeless children and youth in all States.

(b) SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(1) The Secretary shall monitor and review compliance with the provisions of this subtitle in accordance with the provisions of the General Education Provisions Act.

(2) The Secretary shall prepare and submit a report to the Congress on the programs and activities authorized by this subtitle at the end of each fiscal year.

(3) The Secretary shall compile and submit a report to the Congress containing the information received from the States pursuant to section 722(d)(3) within 45 days of its receipt.

42 USC 11435.

SEC. 725. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this subtitle—

(1) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Education; and

(2) the term "State" means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

APPENDIX B

DRAFT OF PROPOSED REVISION TO STATE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

SENATE, No. 2352

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 28, 1988

By Senator PALLONE

AN ACT concerning the district of residence for certain students [1], amending P.L.1979, c.207 and N.J.S.18A:38-1[1] and supplementing chapter 38 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

[1][1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection d. of N.J.S.18A:38-1, any person over five and under 20 years of age whose parent or guardian moves from one school district to a another school district due to temporary dislocation resulting from an emergency situation shall continue to be considered domiciled in the school district from which the parent or guardian moved. As used in this subsection, a move is temporary if it is intended that the parent or guardian will reside in the dwelling for a period not to not to exceed 11 months.

b. Any student residing in one school district and attending school in a another school district pursuant to the provisions of subsection a. of this section shall be entitled to transportation to and from the school. The transportation shall be provided at no cost to the student or his parent or guardian by the school district which the child is attending and the district shall receive from the State 100% reimbursement of this transportation cost during the school year in which the cost is incurred.][1]

[1]1. Section 19 of P.L.1979, c.207 (C.18A:7B-12) is amended to read as follows:

19. For school funding purposes, the Commissioner of Education shall determine district of residence as follows:

a. The district of residence for children in foster homes shall be the district in which the foster parents reside. If a child in a foster home is subsequently placed in a State facility or by a State agency, the district of residence of the child shall then be determined as if no such foster placement had occurred.

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
[1] Senate SED committee amendments adopted October 20, 1988.
[2] Assembly floor amendments adopted December 15, 1988.

b. The district of residence for children who are in residential State facilities, or who have been placed by State agencies in group homes, private schools or out-of-state facilities, shall be the present district of residence of the parent or guardian with whom the child lived prior to his most recent admission to a State facility or most recent placement by a State agency.

If this cannot be determined, the district of residence shall be the district in which the child resided prior to such admission or placement.

c. The district of residence for children whose parent or guardian temporarily move from one school district to another as the result of being homeless shall be the district in which the parent or guardian last resided prior to becoming homeless. For the purpose of this amendatory and supplementary act, "homeless" shall mean an individual who temporarily lacks a fixed, regular and adequate residence.

[c.] d. If the district of residence cannot be determined according to the criteria contained herein, or if the criteria contained herein identify a district of residence outside of the State, the State shall assume fiscal responsibility for the tuition of the child. The tuition shall equal the State average net current expense budget per pupil plus the appropriate categorical program support, if any. This amount shall be appropriated in the same manner as other State aid under this act. The Department of Education shall pay the amount to the Department of Human Services or the Department of Corrections or, in the case of a homeless child, to the school district in which the child is enrolled[1].

(cf: P.L.1985, c.244, s.1)

[1]2. N.J.S.18A:38-1 is amended to read as follows:

18A:38-1. Public schools shall be free to the following persons over five and under 20 years of age:

(a) Any person who is domiciled within the school district;

(b) Any person who is kept in the home of another person domiciled within the school district and is supported by such other person gratis as if he were such other person's own child, upon filing by such other person with the secretary of the board of education of the district, if so required by the board, a sworn statement that he is domiciled within the district and is

supporting the child gratis and will assume all personal obligations for the child relative to school requirements and that he intends so to keep and support the child gratuitously for a longer time than merely through the school term, and a copy of his lease if a tenant, or a sworn statement by his landlord acknowledging his tenancy if residing as a tenant without a written lease, and upon filing by the child's parent or guardian with the secretary of the board of education a sworn statement that he is not supporting the child, accompanied by documentation to support the validity of the sworn statements, information from or about which shall be supplied only to the board and only to the extent that it directly pertains to the support or nonsupport of the child; provided, however, that the board of education may contest the validity of the sworn statement in proceedings before the commissioner, except that no child shall be denied admission during the pendency of any such proceedings before the commissioner, and the resident shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence before the commissioner that the child is eligible for a free education under the criteria listed in this subsection. If in the judgment of the commissioner this evidence does not support the claim of the resident, he may assess the resident tuition for the student prorated to the time of the board's request for a sworn statement from the resident. Tuition shall be computed on the basis of 1/180 of the total annual per pupil cost to the local district multiplied by the number of days of ineligible attendance;

(c) Any person who fraudulently allows a child of another person to use his residence and is not the primary financial supporter of that child and any person who fraudulently claims to have given up custody of his child to a person in another district commits a disorderly persons offense;

(d) Any person whose parent or guardian, even though not domiciled within the district, is residing temporarily therein, but any person who has had or shall have his all-year-round dwelling place within the district for one year or longer shall be deemed to be domiciled within the district for the purposes of this section;

(e) Any person for whom the Division of Youth and Family Services in the Department of Human Services is acting as guardian and who is placed in the district by said bureau;

(f) Any person whose parent or guardian moves from one school district to another school district as a result of being homeless and whose district of residence is determined pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1979, c.207 (C.18A:7B-12).[1]

(cf: P.L.1985, c.6, s.1)

[1]3. (New section) The district of residence for a homeless child determined pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1979, c.207 (C.18A:7B-12) shall be responsible for the education of the homeless child. The district of residence shall determine the educational placement of the child after consulting with the parent or guardian. This determination shall [2][either]2 be [2]: a.2 to continue the [2][student's] child's2 education in the school district of [2]last attendance, b. to enroll the child in the district of2 residence [2]if the district of residence is not the district of last attendance,2 or [2]c.2 to enroll the [2][student] child2 in the school district where the child is temporarily living, whichever is in the child's best interest. If the parent or guardian objects to the determination made by the district of residence, the county superintendent of schools shall be notified and within 48 hours shall determine the placement of the child based on criteria established by the State Board of Education. Any appeals regarding the determination shall be resolved according to rules established by the State Board of Education.

When the homeless child attends school in [2][the district where temporarily living] a district other than the district of residence2, the district of residence shall pay the costs of tuition for the child to attend school in that district and shall pay for any transportation costs incurred by [2][the] that2 district [2][in which the child is temporarily residing]2. When the homeless child attends school in the district of residence while temporarily residing in another district, the district of residence shall provide for transportation to and from school pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.18A:58-7.[1]

[1][2.]1 4. Subject to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), the State Board of Education shall adopt rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act.

[1][3.]1 5. This act shall take effect July 1 next following enactment.

EDUCATION

Children

Modifies the school district of residence for certain children residing in temporary housing.

APPENDIX C

COMMISSIONER'S MEMO TO CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CN 500
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0500

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

September 1, 1988

TO: Chief School Administrators

FROM: Saul Cooperman, Commissioner

SUBJECT: Education of Homeless Children and Youth

Many families in New Jersey are facing the problem of homelessness. It has been estimated that there could be close to 20,000 homeless children in the state, many of whom are of school age. This situation demands our attention and cooperation. This communication will inform you of:

- the Department of Education's response to this urgent situation;
- federal requirements in this area;
- existing state law regarding residency requirements; and
- department recommendations about how to resolve educational issues that affect homeless students.

Office of Education for Homeless Students

The United States Congress has responded to the homeless emergency by passing the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. A major component of this law states that homeless children and youth must receive a free and appropriate public education. As a result of this act, the New Jersey Department of Education has received a federal grant to establish an Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth that is working to assure that homeless children throughout the state receive the public education that is their right.

The central mission of this new Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth is to ensure that these students have the same access to elementary and secondary education as all students. The objectives of the office are to:

- gather data on the number and location of homeless children and youth and determine their educational needs;

- ensure that homeless youngsters have access to education and that school placement decisions are made in the best interests of the students;

- develop and carry out a state plan that provides for the education of homeless students; and

- provide local districts with information about the problem of homelessness and assist them in meeting the needs of homeless students.

Critical Impact Districts

In addition to the homeless students who currently affect many New Jersey school districts because they are relocated to temporary settings in motels or shelters, some districts must now provide educational services to large numbers of homeless students who are being housed in state institutions and facilities. I recognize this as a matter of critical concern.

This situation has become critical because in June the New Jersey Supreme Court upheld the state's regulation of a time limitation on emergency assistance benefits. This regulation placed a five-month limit on the amount of time homeless families could receive assistance to live in a temporary setting. In effect, all homeless families who are housed by county welfare agencies can only be housed temporarily for a maximum of five months.

Because the county welfare agencies were not able to place some families when their five months of emergency assistance ended, this resulted in these families being without living accommodations. The State Department of Human Services is now relocating these homeless families to four state institutions in Burlington, Camden, Essex and Monmouth counties until a more permanent living situation is arranged.

As a result, the school districts of Woodland Township, Winslow Township, Newark and Marlboro Township have been significantly affected and face special challenges due to the numbers of homeless students they must now enroll. In the future, additional state facilities may be used to house homeless families, thereby involving more school districts.

Emergency Assistance

In response to the fiscal needs of districts significantly affected by the situation, I will recommend that the State Board of Education consider requests by these districts for funds under the Emergency Aid Act (N.J.S.A. 18A:58-11) as an immediate financial solution. Any district that experiences financial hardship caused by the relocation of homeless families in their area may apply for state emergency aid through their county superintendent of schools. Any transportation costs not covered by emergency assistance may be reimburseable through pupil transportation aid pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1.

Current Residency Requirements

In addressing the educational needs of homeless students, the first step is to ensure that the state's residency requirements do not bar or deny homeless students access to school. New Jersey's current residency requirements are clear on this matter. Every student in this state is entitled to a free, public education in the school district where he or she is domiciled [N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(a)]. The law also stipulates that those students whose parent or guardian is a temporary resident, even though not domiciled within the district, are entitled to attend public schools in the temporary district of residence [N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(d)].

Since homeless students are sometimes placed in temporary shelters or motels outside of their original district of residence, they are temporary residents of a new school district under existing state law and are entitled to enroll and receive all appropriate educational services in the temporary district of residence. Thus, no homeless student in New Jersey can be denied immediate entrance to school due to the temporary nature of the residency.

Proposed Legislation

Although New Jersey's residency requirements do not specifically address the homeless issue, the federal McKinney Act does. The McKinney Act states that homeless students can be educated in one of two districts. The act requires that the state ensures to the extent practicable that:

> The local education agency of each homeless child or youth shall either-
>
> > (A) continue the child's or youth's education in the school district of origin for the remainder of the school year, or
> >
> > (B) enroll the child or youth in the school district where the child or youth is actually living; whichever is in the child's best interest or the youth's best interest.

Legislation will be proposed to revise New Jersey's existing residency laws to better address the special circumstances of homeless school youngsters and to be consistent with the McKinney Act regarding the placement of students. Until legislative action takes place and because of the need for immediate action in this area, I urge you to cooperate in the placement of these students in a timely manner.

Placement of Homeless Students

In light of the current residency laws of New Jersey, homeless students are entitled to enroll in the district in which they temporarily reside.

However, in unusual circumstances, it may be in the best interest of the homeless student to continue his or her enrollment in the original district of residence. In this case, I urge the two involved districts to make the placement decision that best addresses the student's needs.

The districts should consider the following in making the placement decision:

- continuity of educational program;
- the need for special instructional programs (e.g. special education, bilingual and ESL education, compensatory education or gifted and talented education);
- transportation and travel time; and
- the views of the parent or guardian.

Your county superintendent of schools is available to provide you with assistance in this area.

It is important that homeless students experience as little interruption in their educational program as possible. A delay in the receipt of school or medical records must not preclude timely registration and immediate entrance to school.

In the coming months we will keep you informed about our legislative efforts in changing the state's residency requirements and our survey of homeless children and youth. Please contact your county superintendent's office or the Office of Education of Homeless Children and Youth at (609) 292-8777 for additional information or assistance.

Thank you for your efforts to facilitate the education of homeless students without interruption. Your cooperation in quickly placing these students into the appropriate school setting will do much to provide them with a sense of place and continuity they otherwise may lack.

SC/JD/pe:1/2824h

c: State Board of Education Members
Commissioner Drew Altman
County Superintendents
Division Heads

APPENDIX D

SURVEY INSTRUMENT
(NOVEMBER 18, 1988)

NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

1988 SURVEY

Agency Information:

County _____ Name of Agency _____

Person Completing Form/Title _____ Area Code _____ Telephone Number _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

General Instructions

1. For the purpose of this survey a "homeless" individual is defined as one who (1) lacks a fixed, regular and adequate residence or (2) has a primary nighttime residence in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter for temporary accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters and transitional housing for the mentally ill), an institution providing temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

2. Information provided should be obtained from active/current caseloads of homeless children and youth on Friday, November 18, 1988.

3. For assistance contact the Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth at (609) 292-8777.

4. Please complete and return by December 1, 1988 to:

Office of Education for Homeless Children and Youth
Division of Compensatory/Bilingual Education
New Jersey State Department of Education
CN-500
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

SURVEY OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH
NOVEMBER 18, 1988

1. Report the total number of homeless children and youth you are currently serving according to the following school and age level groups.

School/Age Level	Numbers
a. Preschool, Ages 3-4	_____
b. Elementary (Grades K-6), Ages 5-11	_____
c. Middle/Jr. High (Grades 7-9), Ages 12 to 14	_____
d. High School (Grades 10-12), Ages 15-18	_____

2. Of the total reported in item 1 indicate the number of homeless children and youth:

a. Who are attending school	_____
b. Who are <u>not</u> attending school	_____

3. Report numbers of homeless children and youth housed according to the following locations.

Type of Housing	Numbers
a. Publicly Operated Shelters	_____
b. Privately Operated Shelters	_____
c. Motels/Hotels	_____
d. Relatives or Friends	_____
e. Other: (Please Specify)	_____

4. Rank in order of importance the following reasons that apply to cases where homeless children and youth have had difficulty in attending school.

a. Residency Requirements	_____
b. Lack of Transportation	_____
c. Lack of Health Records	_____
d. Lack of School Records	_____
e. Guardianship Requirements	_____
f. Other: (Please Specify)	_____

5. Rank in order of importance, the following special educational needs of the homeless children and youth you are serving.

   a. Special Education _____

   b. Bilingual/ESL Education _____

   c. Compensatory Education _____

   d. Gifted and Talented Education _____

   e. Other: (Please Specify) _____

6. Indicate who notifies school districts of homeless children and youth.

   a. Shelter Personnel _____

   b. Parents _____

   c. Social Workers _____

   d. Social Service Agency _____

   e. Other: (Please Specify) _____

7. Describe any difficulties you have encountered in identifying the educational needs of this population.

_____

_____

_____

_____

8. Provide any additional information regarding the education of homeless children and youth.

_____

_____

_____

_____

JD/dm:14/7473H

APPENDIX E

LIST OF RESPONDENTS BY COUNTY

JD/kv:1/3122h

Respondents By County
November 18, 1988 - One Day Survey

Atlantic County

Mr. Howard Kyle
Deputy Department Head-Social Services
Atlantic County Department of Social Services
Division of Welfare
1333 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401
(609) 345-6700 x2705

Ms. Beverly Gilbert, Executive Director
Atlantic County Women's Center
P.O. Box 311
Northfield, New Jersey 08225
(609) 646-6767

Bergen County

Mr. Mike Gerhardt, Deputy Executive Director
Bergen Community Action Program
214 State Street
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601
(201) 488-5100

Ms. Sheila Schnoll
Assistant Administrative Supervisor
Bergen County Board of Social Services
221 Route 4 West
Paramus, New Jersey 07652
(201) 368-4315

Ms. Marcia Gongora, Resource Development Specialist
Bergen County - D.Y.F.S.
60 State Street
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601
(201) 487-5380

Ms. Jane Pierce, Parent/Child Coordinator
Shelter Our Sister
P.O. Box 202
Hackensack, New Jersey 07602
(201) 836-1075

Burlington County

Ms. Karen Nixon, Administrative Supervisor of S.W.
Burlington County Welfare Board
Route 38 and Eayrestown Road
Mount Holly, New Jersey 08060
(609) 261-1000

Ms. Jean Young, Assistant Coordinator
Volunteers of America
New Lisbon Developmental Center
Route 72
New Lisbon, New Jersey 08064
(609) 588-3195 or 894-4033

Ms. Mary Lou K. Benoit, Program Director
Cross Roads Programs, Incorporated
67 Lexington Avenue
P.O. Box 321
Lumberton, New Jersey 08048
(609) 261-5400

Ms. Nancy Milne Phillips, Program Supervisor
Emergency Services of Catholic Charities
213 Lippincott Avenue
Riverton, New Jersey 08077
(609) 786-1868

Camden County

Mr. Bill Mayeski, Supervisor-Housing Unit
Camden County Board of Social Services
600 Market Street
Camden, New Jersey 08101
(609) 757-8800

Ms. Sarah Giusti, VOA Coordinator
Volunteers of America/Ancora Psychiatric Hospital
Forest Drive
Hammonton, New Jersey 08037
(609) 588-3168 or 567-8608

Cape May County

Mr. Marvin Morell
Administrative Supervisor of Social Services
Cape May County Welfare Agency
Routes 47 and 9
Rio Grande, New Jersey 08242
(609) 886-6200

Cumberland County

Ms. Barbara Piquet, Deputy Director
Cumberland County Welfare Agency
13 North East Boulevard
Vineland, New Jersey 08360
(609) 691-4600

Ms. Donna Wrenn, Director of Social Services
Rural Development Corporation
425 Landis Avenue
Vineland New Jersey 08360
(609) 691-0055

Essex County

Ms. Cathy Deats, Director of Social Service
Salvation Army
61 High Street
Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028
(201) 744-3312

Ms. Hazel Clarke, Director
Apostle House
18 Grant Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(201) 482-8865

Ms. Irma Jenkins, Director
Catholic Community Services at Martland
65 Bergen Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(201) 648-4506

Ms. Sandy Acomondo, Supervisor Homeless Unit
Essex County Division of Welfare
18 Rector Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(201) 733-3000

Mr. Clifton Boone, Lieutenant
The Salvation Army
430 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
East Orange, New Jersey 07018
(201) 672-0262

Sister Rita Foegen, Coordinator
Essex County Family Violence Program
755 South Orange Avenue
Newark, New Jersey C7106
(201) 484-1704

Mr. Vicent A. Perez
Acting Director - Community Services
United Community Corporation
31 Fulton Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(201) 642-0181

Gloucester County

Ms. Evelyn Giuter, Executive Director
People Against Spouse Abuse
P.O. Box 755
Glassboro, New Jersey 08028
(609) 881-3335

Ms. Sheila Coughlin, Administrative Supervisor
Gloucester County Board of Social Services
400 Hollydell Drive
Sewell, New Jersey 07102
(609) 582-9200

Ms. Kathleen Bridgeman, Shelter Coordinator
Together, Incorporated
301 Greentree Road
Glassboro, New Jersey 08028
(609) 881-6100

Ms. Mary Lou Karkuff, Intake
Volunteers of America
Church Street and Evergreen Avenue
Thorofare, New Jersey 08086
(609) 853-0350 or 853-0004

Hudson County

Ms. Janet Withwilk
Anthony House
47 Duncan Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07302
(201) 656-0139

Ms. Eleanor Tiefenwerth, Executive Director
Bayonne Economic Opportunity Fund
555 Kennedy Boulevard
P.O. Box 1032
Bayonne, New Jersey 07002
(201) 437-7222

Sister Jean Beil, Coordinator
Catholic Community Services/Franciska Residence
615 Grove Street
Jersey City, New Jersey 07302
(201) 653-3366

Mr. Bob Clark and Ms. Salla Wilson
Division of Youth and Family Services
690 Broadway
Bayonne, New Jersey 07002
(201) 823-5000

Mr. Aglahe Morales-Pareja, Acting D.O. Mgr.
Division of Youth and Family Services
2815 Kennedy Boulevard
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306
(201) 915-3500

Ms. Grace Douglass
Division of Youth and Family Services
8901 Bergenline Avenue
North Bergen, New Jersey 07047
(201) 854-7100

Mr. John Gibney
Administrative Supervisor of Social Services
Hudson County Division of Social Services
100 Newkirk Street
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306
(201) 420-3041

Ms. Michele Shababb, Homeless Program
North Hudson Community Action Program
507 - 26th Street
Union City, New Jersey 07087
(201) 330-3829

Ms. Joanne Burns, Social Worker
Square Meal
2811 Kennedy Boulevard
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306
(201) 332-0684

Mr. William Penney, Site Administrator
Youth Consultation Shelter
114 Clifton Place
Jersey City, New Jersey 07304
(201) 915-1180

Ms Susan Fleisch, Director
Y.W.C.A. Jersey City Battered Women's Program
270 Fairmont Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306
(201) 333-5700

Hunterdon County

Ms. Marsha B. Atkinson
Administrative Supervisor of Social Work
Hunterdon County Board of Social Services
6 Gauntt Place
Flemington, New Jersey 08822
(201) 788-1300

Mercer County

Ms. Fran Chrzanowski
Assistant Administrator of Social Work
Mercer County Board of Social Services
200 Woolverton Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08650
(609) 989-4570

Ms. Mary Gay Abbott-Young, Executive Director
Rescue Mission of Trenton, Incorporated
98 Carroll Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08604
(609) 695-6479

Ms. Sharon Metro-Pertes, Shelter Director
Woman Space, Incorporated
P.O. Box 7070
Trenton, New Jersey 08628
(609) 394-9000

Middlesex County

Ms. Christine Sharp, Program Supervisor
Catholic Charities, New Brunswick Office
18 Neilson Street
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901
(201) 745-9800

Ms. Denise Wilkens, Program Director
Catholic Charities, Ozanam Family Shelter
1 Roosevelt Drive
Edison, New Jersey 08817
(201) 321-1166

Ms. Merle Asaro, Administrative Supervisor of S.W.
Middlesex County Board of Social Services
181 How Lane
P.O. Box 509
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903
(201) 745-3679

Ms. Janet Jones, Director
Middlesex Interfaith Partners with the Homeless
5 Paterson Street
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901
(201) 214-8888

Ms. Jacquelyn E. Marich, Executive Director
Women Aware, Incorporated
P.O. Box 312
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903
(201) 249-4504

Monmouth County

Ms. Paige Sinclair, Program Specialist
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
1005 Hooper Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey 08753
(201) 286-6426

Mr. Phil Siciliano, Supervisor
Monmouth County Board of Social Services
P.O. Box 3000
Freehold, New Jersey 07728

Ms. Carole Kutz, Coordinator-Childrens Services
Women's Resource Center
10-16 Board Street
Keyport, New Jersey 07735

Morris County

Ms. Judi Gross, Resource Development Specialist
Division of Youth and Family Services
855 Route 10 East
Randolph, New Jersey 07869
(201) 927-0931

Ms. Jane Baldwin-Le Clair, Assistant Director
Jersey Battered Women's Service, Incorporated
36 Elm Street
Suite 5
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

Ms. Anne D. Paust
Administrative Supervisor of S.W.
Morris County Board of Social Services
Courthouse
CN 900
Morristown, New Jersey 07960
(201) 326-7870

Ms. Mary Frances Weldon, Social Service Coordinator
Morris Shelter, Incorporated
P.O. Box 282
Morristown, New Jersey 07963-0828
(201) 993-0833

Ocean County

Ms. Marcia B. Anglani, Administrator
Department of Community Affairs
Transitional Housing
1005 Hooper Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey 08753
(201) 286-6426

Ms. Mary Frances Mc Fadden
Administrative Supervisor of Social Work
Ocean County Board of Social Services
1027 Hooper Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey 08754
(201) 349-1500

Ms. Susan A. Jones
Ocean's Harbor House
2445 Windsor Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey 08753
(201) 929-0660

Ms. Claire Mannato, Program Coordinator
Providence House
203 Hooper Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey 08753
(201) 244-8259

Mr. David Adams, Corps. Commanding Officer
The Salvation Army
Ocean Corps. Community Center
1285 A Hooper Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey 08754
(201) 341-8840

Passaic County

Ms. Ruth Gotfried
Administrative Supervisor of S.W.
Passaic County Board of Social Services
80 Hamilton Street
Paterson, New Jersey 07507
(201) 881-0100

Mr. Robert Lenheiser, Director
Paterson Family Shelter
38 Elm Street
Paterson, New Jersey 07501
(201) 279-7979

Ms. Carolyn Gutierrez, Director
St. Peter's Haven
390 Clifton Avenue
Clifton, New Jersey 07011
(201) 546-3406

Ms. Diane Waters, Program Supervisor
Women's Center
P.O. Box 244
Paterson, New Jersey 07513
(201) 881-1450

Salem County

Mr. Art Perry, Casework Supervisor
Division of Youth and Family Services
5 Woodstown Road
Salem, New Jersey 08079
(609) 935-6356

Mr. Leard W. Jones
Open Door Outreach
59 Walnut Street
Penns Grove, New Jersey 08069
(609) 299-9638

Ms. Joyce Lewis, Director
Community Outreach
186 East Broadway
Salem, New Jersey 08079
(609) 935-2940

Ms. Martha Reynolds, Senior Caseworker
Salem County P.R.A.C.
114 East Main Street
P.O. Box 444
Penns Grove, New Jersey 08069
(609) 299-5800

Ms. Mary Wolffbrandt Carr, Social Worker
Salem County Welfare
147 South Virginia Avenue
Pennsgrove, New Jersey 08069
(609) 299-7200

Ms. Lori Schaffer, Executive Director
Salem County Women's Services
P.O. Box 125
Salem, New Jersey 08079
(609) 935-8012

Somerset County

Ms. Gilda Lameiras, Coordinator
Catholic Charities
540-550 Route 22 East
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807
(201) 722-1881

Ms. Karen Strayer, Residential Counselor
Resource Center For Women and their Families
205 West Main Street
Somerville, New Jersey 08876
(201) 685-1122

Ms. Mildred A. Gaupp, Deputy Director
Somerset County Board of Social SErvices
73 East High Street
Somerville, New Jersey 08876
(201) 526-8800

Ms. Trish Evanik, Educational Coordinator
Somerset Youth Center
49 Brahma Avenue
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807
(201) 526-6605

Sussex County

Ms. Michele Leonard, Child Advocate
Domestic Abuse Program of Samaritan Inn
P.O. Box 321
Newton, New Jersey 07860
(201) 875-1211

Ms. Anna Olsen
Samaritan Inn Homeless
48 Wyker Road
Franklin, New Jersey 07416
(201) 827-8911

Ms. Mary B. Towle, Social Work Supervisor
Sussex County Welfare Board
P.O. Box 2181
Newton, New Jersey 07860

Union County

Ms. Sue Marcus, Acting Director
Peggy O'Donohue, Childrens Program Coordinator
Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless
120 Division Street
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201
(201) 352-2966

Ms. Maureen Glenn, Director (East)
Debbie Prescott, Director (West)
Interfaith Council for Homeless
110 West End Avenue
Summit, New Jersey 07901
(201) 686-1917

Ms. Mary Albertson, Director of Homeless
American Red Cross-Plainfield Chapter
332 West Front Street
Plainfield, New Jersey 07060
(201) 756-6414

Ms. Catherine Wight
Assistant Administrative Supervisor
Division of Social Services
80 Broad Street
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201
(201) 351-1145

Warren County

Ms. Bonnie Lawrance, Executive Director
Domestic Abuse and Rape Crisis Center
P.O. Box 423
Belvidere, New Jersey 07823
(201) 475-4420

Mr. Richard G. Downs, Supervisor Social Services
Warren County Welfare
Court House Annex
Belvidere, New Jersey 07823
(201) 475-6046

Ms. Mary Thiele, Resource Development Specialist
Division of Youth and Family Services
5 West Washington Avenue
Washington, New Jersey 07882
(201) 689-7000

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